IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

ATTN: AF

Tadashi FUJII et al.

Confirmation No. 1705

Serial No. 09/762,230

Docket No. 2001-0116A

Filed February 5, 2001

: Group Art Unit 1652

GENE PARTICIPATING IN THE PRODUCTION OF HOMOGLUTAMIC ACID AND ITS USE

Examiner Christian L. Fronda

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT

ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

AFTER FINAL AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment and Reply is in complete response to the Office Action dated June 12, 2003 (*i.e.*, Paper No. 11). A Petition for Extension of Time requesting a three-month extension of time, a Notice of Appeal, and a corresponding fee accompany this response, which is being filed on or before its now current due date of December 12, 2003. Applicants herein provide the following amendments and remarks.

